

### **NEW PROGRAM PROPOSAL FORM**

**Sponsoring Institution(s):** University of Missouri – St. Louis

Program Title: **Psychology** 

Degree/Certificate: Bachelor of Science

**Options:** Click here to enter text,

Delivery Site(s): University of Missouri - St. Louis

CIP Classification: 420101

\*CIP code can be cross-referenced with programs offered in your region on MDHE's program inventory highered.mo.gov/ProgramInventory/search.jsp

Implementation Date:

September 2015

Cooperative Partners:

Click here to enter text.

\*If this is a collaborative program, form CL must be included with this proposal

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6/29/2015

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NEW DI	EGREE PROGRAM PROPOSAL				
Sponsoring Campus:	University of Missouri – St. Louis				
College or School:	Arts & Sciences				
Department:	Psychological Sciences	<u> </u>			
Program Title:	Psychology				
Degree:	Bachelor of Science	<del></del>			
Delivery Site(s):	University of Missouri-St. Louis				
CIP Classification:	420101				
Implementation Date:	September 2015				
<b>Expected Date of First Graduation:</b>		_			
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Individual(s) Responsible for Succ	ess of Program:				
(-) <sub>F</sub>	Chair, Psychological Sciences	_			

### **Executive Summary**

We are requesting to add a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) as a choice for undergraduates to the existing Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree in the Department of Psychological Sciences at U.M.-St. Louis. The new B.S. degree program will be generated using existing courses in the College of Arts and Sciences and will not incur extra costs for the College or the University. The rationale for the B.S. path is that there is a demand among majors in Psychological Sciences for a more science-based curriculum leading to a B.S. degree. This degree will allow greater flexibility for our majors to choose a degree program that can be tailored to a variety of career options. Specifically, the B.S. degree will make our graduates more competitive for graduate programs in general and in specific areas such as neuroscience and for career paths in medical and health settings. We estimate that this degree option will be appealing to at least 10 percent of our existing majors.

### 1. Introduction

The Department of Psychological Sciences at UM-St. Louis has approximately 600 majors currently pursuing the B.A. degree. These majors will take many different career trajectories which often include going to graduate school in psychology or a related discipline or going to medical school. As many as 50-60% of these majors have plans to continue their education in graduate work. The addition of a more science-based B.S. option will help to make these students more competitive for these graduate options as well as more marketable for certain career paths such as in the health sciences and related fields.

Of note, the Medical College Aptitude Test (MCAT) has been revised to include a much larger component devoted to knowledge in the social and behavioral sciences. As a result, an undergraduate degree in psychology will be an even more viable preparatory program for medical school, especially if students have the opportunity for the coursework available in the proposed B.S. degree.

The B.S. degree will be composed entirely of existing courses within departments in the College of Arts and Sciences. This proposal will detail coursework from the Natural Sciences (Biology, Chemistry, & Physics) and Social Sciences that will form the basis for the degree along with courses in the Department of Psychological Sciences.

The department responsible for overseeing the successful implementation of the degree will be the Department of Psychological Sciences. Specific implementation issues will fall to the Chair of the Department (currently Dr. Michael Griffin) to manage.

### 2. Fit With University Mission and Other Academic Programs

### 2.A. Alignment With Mission and Goals

Here is the University of Missouri-St. Louis Mission Statement:

**Vision** The University Missouri-St. Louis will be known as a premier metropolitan public research university and as a university of choice for undergraduate, graduate and professional students.

#### Mission

The University of Missouri-St. Louis provides excellent learning experiences and leadership opportunities for a diverse student body. Outstanding faculty and staff, innovative research, and creative partnerships foster synergies that advance the welfare of our stakeholders and benefit the global society.

#### Values

**Excellence** We believe excellence in research and creative achievement results from original thinking that advances fields of study and is recognized externally. Excellence also refers to paying serious attention to individual student learning needs and maintaining the highest academic standards, using multiple approaches to facilitate learning, engaging in ongoing assessment of student learning and improvement of the quality of learning experience.

Integrity We expect the highest ethical standards in all aspects of the educational experience and foster throughout the campus community the strongest commitment to respect, dignity, honesty and freedom in individuals' academic, professional and civic lives. Partnerships We value collaboration among students and organizations and engage in research and teaching to improve the quality of life. Collaboration develops graduates who contribute in meaningful ways to a diverse global society. Interdisciplinary research generates novel ways of resolving problems and building new knowledge.

**Opportunity** We value access to excellent education, engagement in cutting edge research, and dedication to the university, community, and professional service as a means to develop the future of our region, state, nation and world. A focus on opportunity helps develop responsible citizens who contribute to quality of life and who represent the diversity of the community and the world we serve.

**Diversity** We value diversity among faculty, staff, and students and recognize its essential contribution to campus culture. Different cultural, intellectual, socioeconomic and regional perspectives add substantially to understanding, richness of debate, intellectual inquiry and knowledge development.

**Stewardship** We value the financial, physical and human resources entrusted to us and exercise care in employing them. We cultivate the trust, loyalty and good will of stakeholders, whose assets allow us to pursue our educational mission.

The B.S. degree will align with the mission and goals of the University in a number of ways including:

- 1. An emphasis on research knowledge and training.
- 2. An emphasis on expanding opportunities for our students through greater choice and flexibility in selecting a more science-based curriculum.
- An emphasis on academic rigor and excellence that is a core feature of the new B.S. degree option.

### 2.B. Duplication and Collaboration Within Campus and Across System

The B.S. degree option in Psychology is offered through other UM system schools (e.g., U.M. – Columbia). However, this option at UM-St. Louis will benefit the students who are place-bound to St. Louis and will be of great value to our students. The rationale to have a B.S. option at U.M.-St. Louis is that there is a strong demand for this option among our students and it will not produce any extra costs to the University. Collaboration with other campuses on the B.S. degree is not necessary or feasible.

### 3. Business-Related Criteria and Justification

### 3.A. Market Analysis

### 3.A.1. Need for Program

We have surveyed our majors and it is clear that there is a sizable subgroup who would greatly value the B.S. option. This option will give our students greater choice and therefore more options for career paths. It is clear that science-based knowledge is a driving force in the modern economy. Students are projected to have multiple careers over the span of their life. This new B.S. option will give them a solid foundation to be competitive in the modern job market in our region and for graduate program admission.

### 3.A.2. Student Demand for Program

When we survey our students it is clear that there is a significant demand for the B.S. degree. Our best estimate is that at least 10% of our majors will choose this option. We expect that the B.S. may grow over time as the bar is set ever higher for admission to graduate schools and medical schools and competition for higher paying jobs that require greater science literacy increases.

Table 1a. Student Enrollment Projections (anticipated total number of students enrolled in program during the fall semester of given year).

Year	1	2	3	4	5
Full-Time	40	40	40	50	50
Part-Time	5	5	5	10	10
Total	45	45	45	60	60

Table 1b. Student Enrollment Projections (anticipated number of students enrolled during the fall semester of given year who were new to campus).

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Year	1	2	3	4	5
Full-Time	20	25	30	30	30
Part-Time	5	5	10	10	10
Total	25	30	40	40	40

Table 1c. Projected Number of Degrees Awarded

Year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
# of Degrees	10	10	10	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Awarded			,			1	1			<u> </u>

# 3.B. Financial Projections

# 3.B.1. Additional Resources Needed

No additional resources will be needed for the B.S. degree.

#### 3.B.2. Revenue

The B.S. degree will not generate new revenue.

### 3.B.3. Net Revenue

The degree will likely be revenue neutral as existing students will move from the B.A. option to the B.S. option or will choose the B.S. option instead of the B.A. option.

### 3.B.4. Financial and Academic Viability

Financial viability will not be an issue since the program will not generate any additional costs to the University.

Table 2a
Enrollment at the End of Year 5 for the Program to Be Financially and Academically Viable.

Viability	Minimum
	Enrollment
Financial	N/A
Academic	20

Table 3. Enrollment at the End of Year 5 for the Program to Be Financially and Academically Viable.

Enrollment Status	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total
Number of Students	15	5	20

# 3.C. Business and Marketing Plan: Recruiting and Retaining Students

We will market the degree program primarily to our undergraduate majors through electronic notification of the new degree option. We will publish the B.S. degree information in the UMSL Bulletin. We will include specific information about the degree and the requirements. For the first 4 years we will send out mass e-mail to our majors alerting them to the presence of this new degree option. In addition, our departmental advising office staff will do a workshop each semester for the first two years to inform students of the new option and to answer questions about the B.S. and how it differs from the B.A. option. We will use the same methods to retain students that we use for the B.A. degree. This will include the use of Academic Alert and information provided through our Department Advising Office. There will be no additional costs to the University for the marketing plan as described. The program will be marketed primary by the Coordinator of our Undergraduate Advising Office (currently Dr. Ann Steffen) and her staff.

# 4. Institutional Capacity

There will be no additional burden placed on existing programs or resources.

# 5. Program Characteristics

### 5.A. Program Outcomes

Students will have a greater knowledge base in the natural sciences and will have a broader exposure to theory and research in the sciences generally.

#### 5.B. Structure

The structure that follows describes the requirements for all majors in Psychological Sciences at U.M. – St. Louis and then presents the specific elements that make up the B.S. degree requirements.

Total credits required for graduation: 120 Residency requirements, if any: None

General education:

Total credits for general education courses: 42

Major requirements:

Total credits specific to degree: 37 (min) – 50 (max)

Free elective credits:

Total free elective credits: 28 (min) - 41 (max)

The sum of hours required for general education, major requirements and free electives should equal the total credits required for graduation.

Requirement for thesis, internship or other capstone experience:

N/A

# Any unique features such as interdepartmental cooperation:

N/A

### **General Education Requirements**

Majors must satisfy the university and college <u>General Education curricular requirements</u>. Selected courses in Psychology may be used to meet General Education Social and Behavioral Sciences and/or Valuing requirements. These courses are listed here in The Bulletin and can be found on the Degree Audit Report System.

### **Undergraduate Requirements**

Majors in Psychology can choose between a track toward the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree or the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree. The courses listed below are required for both B.A. and B.S. degrees. However, other requirements for the B.A. and B.S. degrees differ. For example, the B.A. degree requires the completion of 13 hours of foreign language that is not required for the B.S. degree.

PSYCH 1000	Choosing A Career In Psychology	1
PSYCH 1003	General Psychology	3
PSYCH 2201	Psychological Statistics	4
PSYCH 2219	Research Methods	3
PSYCH 2211	Introduction To Biological Psychology	3
<u>PSYCH 2245</u>	Abnormal Psychology	3
<u>PSYCH 2160</u> or <u>PSYCH 2270</u>	Social Psychology Developmental Psychology: Infancy, Childhood And Adolescence	3
PSYCH 4999	Integrated Psychology	2
Total Hours		22

#### **Additional Notes**

Psychology majors are limited to no more than 50 hours of coursework in Psychology. Credits completed in excess of 50 hours will not count toward graduation. For example, students earning 53 hours in Psychology will consequently be required to earn a minimum of 123 hours to graduate.

The three-course sequence of Math, Psychological Statistics (<u>PSYCH 2201</u>), and Research Methods (<u>PSYCH 2219</u>) require a minimum of three semesters to complete. Students must satisfy the current University mathematical skills requirement before taking <u>PSYCH 2201</u>, Psychological Statistics. <u>PSYCH 2201</u> is a prerequisite for <u>PSYCH 2219</u>, and hence, <u>PSYCH 2201</u> must be completed with a grade of C- or higher PRIOR to enrollment in <u>PSYCH 2219</u>.

Candidates for t than 50, hours o	ence in Psychology the B.S. in Psychology must complete at least 37, but no more of courses taught by or cross-listed with the Department of ciences. In addition to the above courses, students must complete the
Select four Psyc	hology courses numbered 3000 to 4998 <sup>1</sup> 12
In addition, sele	ect at least one of the following Psychology courses 3
Neuroscience	
PSYCH 4300	Introduction To Psychopharmacology: Drugs And Mental Illness
PSYCH 4314	Behavioral Neuroscience
PSYCH 4330	Hormones, The Brain And Behavior
PSYCH 4340	Introduction to Human Neuroanatomy
PSYCH 4349	Human Learning And Memory
PSYCH 4350	Emotions and the Brain
PSYCH 4372	Introduction to Social Neuroscience
Clinical	
PSYCH 3340	Clinical Problems Of Childhood
PSYCH 3500	Health Psychology
PSYCH 3820	Cross-Cultural Psychology
PSYCH 4374	Introduction To Clinical Neuropsychology
Applied	
PSYCH 3316	Fundamentals Of Leadership
PSYCH 3318	Industrial And Organizational Psychology
PSYCH 4250	Stereotyping, Prejudice, and Discrimination
PSYCH 4365	Psychological Testing and Assessment
Natural Scienc	e <sup>2,3</sup>
Select two cour including a labo	ses from Biology, Chemistry, and Physics with at least one of them oratory
Social Science	2
Select one cours Political Science	se from Anthropology, Criminology & Criminal Justice, Economics, e, and Sociology
Total Hours	25

#### **Footnotes**

- <sup>1</sup> No more than 3 hours can be PSYCH 3295 or PSYCH 3390.
- <sup>2</sup> These courses must be above and beyond the General Education requirements.
- <sup>3</sup> Pre-requisite Biology courses for Psych 2211 Biological Psychology may not be used to meet the Natural Science requirement.

Candidates must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher in the major overall, and must earn a C- or above in each of the courses comprising the 37 credits applied to the B.S. degree in Psychology. Failure to earn a C- or above in these required courses will necessitate re-taking them for a satisfactory completion of the C-requirement in all 37 hours. No Psychology courses taken on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis may be applied to the major.

### 5.C. Program Design and Content

The B.S. degree option was designed initially by an ad hoc committee of faculty from the Department of Psychological Sciences at U.M.–St. Louis. They researched national standards for B.S. degrees and reviewed B.S. degree requirements in Psychology Departments at other institutions. The committee presented their recommendations to the full faculty of the Department and a vote was taken on the proposed program. There was a unanimous vote endorsing the plan. The degree program was then reviewed at the College of Arts & Sciences and campus-wide faculty senate level where it was approved with minor modifications in the form that is presented here.

### 5.D. Program Goals and Assessment

Approximately 600 students are currently pursuing the B.A. in psychology at U.M. – St. Louis. Over the last 5 years we have graduated an average of 145 students per year. We expect that after three years 20 of these students will graduate with the B.S. instead of the B.A. and after 5 years it will be 40 students per year.

Students currently take a national Field Placement test during their final semester which provides information about their overall performance compared to a national sample. Percentile ranks are provided for comparative performance evaluation. Over the past three years our students have scored, on average, at the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile. We will be able to use these data in the future to assess performance for both our B.A. and B.S. students. We expect the B.S. students to score at least as well as the B.A. students. In terms of placement rates, our students have a broader set of interests than students of any other major making it difficult to determine placement rates.

### 5.E. Student Preparation

There will be no special student preparation recommendations for the B.S. degree. Nor will there be any special admissions procedures required to enter the degree program.

### 5.F. Faculty and Administration

The Chair of the Department of Psychological Sciences will be responsible for the success of the program and will spend time as needed to oversee the program. Once the program is established this should not require more than one hour per week. The students who choose the B.S. option will be advised about course requirements and strategies for success in completing the degree program by the Psychology Advising Office and through advisers in the College of Arts and Sciences.

The Department Advising Office typically includes three tenure-track and one non tenure-track faculty and three or four graduate students. Courses will be taught by existing faculty and the degree will be made up of courses commonly offered in the relevant departments. It is estimated that 100% of the coursework will be conducted by full-time faculty.

### 5.G. Alumni and Employer Survey

Graduating seniors will be asked to complete an exit survey. Once the new degree is in place we will add questions to the survey to assess the degree to which students who earned the B.S. think it will be valuable. In addition, we will follow these students to measure satisfaction rates 5 years later.

### 5.H. Program Accreditation

N/A, although the university is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission